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Thursday, March 8, 2018

Volume 106, No. 83

THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

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ASB holds runoff elections for president, secretary today



PHOTO BY: MARLEE CRAWFORD

Students hand out campaign stickers in front of the ASB candidate signs on Business Row this afternoon. The runoff results for president and secretary will be announced on the Lyceum steps Thursday.

TAYLOR VANCE
STAFF WRITER

Four candidates will be on the ballot for the Associated Student Body runoff election today after no single candidate gained a majority of the votes in the secretary and presidential races.

Elam Miller and Wister Hitt are the candidates for the presidential runoff after they nearly tied in Tuesday night's election. Miller received 36.34 percent of the vote, and Hitt received 35.63 percent of the vote.

Miller, the current ASB vice president, is running on a platform of greater transparency and student involvement within ASB and promotes ideas such as starting an "idea-tracker" for legislation.

"We're going to have this idea-tracker that will be on our ASB website," Miller said. "And (students) will be able to see it and say, 'This is the idea I submitted.'"

Miller also wants to create a codified shared governance model to hold the university administration more accountable to the student body.

"I really want to hold the administration accountable to the student voice," Miller said. "So, this means more student representation on standing committees and trying to find a way for our Senate to have a voice when we do pass legislation."

Hitt is running to increase communication efforts between ASB and students by enacting a constitutionally mandated town hall event.

"I want an annual State of the University address," Hitt said. I want to include an executive officer, a member of the Faculty Senate and the chancellor."

Hitt also wants to bring a technology upgrade to campus to better serve students' needs.

"I think the university needs to have a hybrid of upgrading personal computers in academic buildings," Hitt said. "I also think we should have a technology center on campus to where students can bring their personal computers to have them upgraded to the most cutting-edge technology."

Cady Cooper and Reagan Moody are the candidates for the secretary election after starting out as write-in candidates and not having their names on the ballot in Tuesday's election. Cooper received 44.99 percent of the vote, and Moody received 31.89 percent of the vote.

Cooper said her platform includes increasing the transparency of ASB's public records even further.

"I want to make it to where the ASB Senate meetings are available to view 24 hours after the Senate adjourns," Cooper said. "I also want to make the senators' voting records public record instead of (students) having to individually request them."

Moody's platform focuses more on smoothing out the transition of power that occurs after ASB elections.

"I want to have each executive officer candidate write down what their strengths and weaknesses were in their office," Moody said. "Then they would give it to the incoming person for a smoother transition."

Attorney General Dillon Pitts said the runoff elections will be conducted in the same manner as was the first election and that he's looking forward to the results of the runoff election.

"We had a great turnout (on Tuesday)," Pitts said. "We need everyone to come out and vote on Thursday."

Voting in the runoff elections will take place from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and students can vote through their myOleMiss accounts under the "Get Involved" tab.

Women's History Month celebration continues on campus

DEVANTE TOLES
STAFF WRITER

The university is hosting panels, speakers, a leadership retreat and more to celebrate Women's History Month to honor and explore the role of women throughout history.

"It's always useful to have at least a month to focus and say, 'Hey, what's happening with women's contribution to culture and history?'" said Jaime Harker, director of the Sarah Isom Center for Women and Gender Studies. "For us, it's really just a great opportunity to remind people that (women's history), just like black history, is not just one month but all year."

This year marks the first Women's History Month since national attention has been brought to sexual misconduct of powerful individuals such as Harvey Weinstein and Kevin Spacey that spearheaded movements such as #MeToo and Time's Up.

"What you're witnessing right now are a bunch of social movements that are unfolding where people are finding their voices and they are finding their voices through the bravery of (Tarana) Burke," said Theresa Starkey, associate director

of the Isom Center. "They are opening up this space where suddenly voices are heard. Those that have been sort of silenced are now finding that and there is something sort of brave and fierce about that."

This year's keynote address will be delivered by Burke, who created the #MeToo movement.

"The #MeToo movement has been such an influential movement that, I think, bringing in the founder is a really nice opportunity to think about it more broadly," Harker said. "University is supposed to open up the world of ideas to students, so when you have the opportunity to bring folks who are smart, interesting and doing things that are having a huge cultural impact, it's always a benefit for students."

Burke's address will be part of the fourth annual Women's Empowerment Awards, and she is expected to speak about the genesis of the #MeToo movement.

The event's organizers attempted to include topics pertaining to women nationally and here on campus.

"It's sort of this collaborative effort of people coming together and talking about

SEE HISTORY MONTH PAGE 3



PHOTO BY: MARLEE CRAWFORD

James Thomas, sociology, professor speaks during the "Affordable Housing is a Feminist Issue" discussion, a Women's History Month event, at the Burns-Belfry Museum on Wednesday night.

THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN
EDITORIAL STAFF:

LANA FERGUSON
editor-in-chief
dmeditor@gmail.com

SLADE RAND
managing editor
dmmanaging@gmail.com

MAGGIE MARTIN
copy chief
thedmcopy@gmail.com

RACHEL ISHEE
MADDIE MCGEE
news editors
thedmnews@gmail.com

BLAKE ALSUP
assistant news editor
thedmnews@gmail.com

SAM HARRES
GRAYSON WEIR
sports editors
thedmsports@gmail.com

MARLEE CRAWFORD
BILLY SCHUERMAN
photography editors
thedmphotos@gmail.com

DEVNA BOSE
lifestyles editor
thedmfeatures@gmail.com

LIAM NIEMAN
opinion editor
thedmopinion@gmail.com

HAYDEN BENGÉ
ETHEL MWEDZIWENDIRA
design editors
thedmdesign@gmail.com

EMILY HOFFMAN
social media editor

KIMBERLY RUSSELL
online editor

ADVERTISING
SALES MANAGER
Blake Hein
dmads@olemiss.edu

SALES ACCOUNT
EXECUTIVES
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COLUMN

Wicker is a steady leader, state advocate



HUNTER FOOSHEE
GUEST COLUMNIST

It was a typical sweltering Mississippi summer day when I first heard the junior U.S. senator from Mississippi, Roger Wicker, speak at the Neshoba County Fair. We are both from Pontotoc, but our paths had never crossed before then.

It was exciting to finally meet the man who had transformed his upbringing into a life of public service, representing not only Mississippians but all Americans. We have encountered each other multiple times since then, and Sen. Wicker hasn't changed.

That is one of his hallmarks – leadership that is steady and sure.

Mississippi is constantly subjected to outside judgment and flagrant misconception. However, despite what many people might say, Mississippi has improved throughout the last few decades. Sure, we aren't where we want to be, but Sen. Wicker brings nearly three decades of policy experience to take our state further.

During his time as Ole Miss student body president, he focused on improving the school for future generations. He took the leadership skills he developed on campus and has been cultivating them ever since.

His position as chair of the National Republican Senatorial Committee from 2015 to 2017 speaks to his reputation as a leader among his colleagues in the U.S. Senate.

In addition to his tenure and positions, Sen. Wicker has always been a dependable advocate for the National Rifle Association and the Second Amendment.

He is one of the most pro-life senators, not to mention his unwavering support for quality healthcare and representation for military veterans.

President Donald Trump and more than 60 of the Trump campaign county committee chairs here in the state have endorsed Sen. Wicker in the upcoming election. His resolve to confirm more conservative judges indicates his wishes to leave a legal system that will work for Mississippians for years to come.

Sen. Wicker devotes himself to representing our whole state in the U.S. Senate. In Mississippi, it is imperative for us to have someone in Washington representing our unique interests – someone we can call upon for dependable federal emergency funds when a hurricane strikes the coast, the Delta experiences flooding or Northeast Mississippi sees a bout of severe weather.

Mississippi needs someone who will not seek to make enemies but will work in a bipartisan fashion to accomplish common legislative goals. Sen. Wicker is that person.

He isn't a wildcard candidate with an unpredictable lifestyle or an impractical platform. Sen. Wicker is ready for a fight, and he seeks to challenge those who stand in the way of progress, not those who are trying to accomplish it.

Regardless of the mudslinging that this campaign season will inevitably bring, remember that Sen. Wicker has been fighting in the trenches for the Magnolia State and its interests for decades. Many seeking this seat have not.

Hunter Fooshee is a junior anthropology major from Pontotoc.

COLUMN

McDaniel will stand up to political elite



WILL HALL
STAFF COLUMNIST

Since his election to the Mississippi state Senate in 2008, Chris McDaniel has proven himself as one of the nation's most valiant defenders of constitutional liberties and God-given freedoms at the state level.

As recipient of the American Conservative Union's Award for Conservative Excellence in 2016 and two 100 percent scores from that organization's independent ranking of legislators in 2014 and 2015, Sen. McDaniel has never backed away from a fight. He championed the Student Religious Liberties Act and even led counsel in a lawsuit against the federal government targeting Obamacare's individual mandate in an effort to bring an end to that disaster.

While Sen. McDaniel was fighting for the rights of average Mississippians, Sen. Roger Wicker sat in the Washington swamp. He supported Obama's disastrous budgets, cut checks from big-time lobbyists and took interviews with his friend, Sen. Cory Booker, in which they agreed that the state flag of Mississippi should be lowered, against the wishes of the majority of Mississippi voters.

In the week since Sen. McDaniel announced his run for U.S. Senate, the Washington machine has already launched a vicious smear campaign trying to paint Sen. McDaniel as an avowed enemy of President Donald Trump, while, in reality, he's the exact opposite.

It is those in the Washington swamp who pose the largest threat to the president and his agenda, for they are controlled by Sen. Mitch McConnell rather than the silent majority of Americans.

I know Sen. McDaniel and I can say without a shadow of a doubt that there is nobody who will work harder for the people of Mississippi than he will.

I encourage all people to take some time to discover the real Sen. McDaniel and not fall victim to the disgusting lies spread by the Washington establishment. I know that when they do, they will discover a man who is truly worthy of this distinguished office.

It's about time we all stood up to Sen. McConnell and the Washington elite by sending one of our own to get some real work done. I know that when Sen. McDaniel gets elected to the Senate, he'll do more in one term for the people of Mississippi than Sen. Wicker could do in 10.

Will Hall is a junior journalism major from Atlanta.

THE DAILY
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S. Gale Denley Student Media Center
201 Bishop Hall,
P.O. Box 1848
University, MS
38677-1848

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Letters should be typed, double-spaced and no longer than 300 words. Letters may be edited for clarity, space or libel. Third-party letters and those bearing pseudonyms, pen names or "name withheld" will not be published. Publication is limited to one letter per individual per calendar month.

Letters should include phone and email contact information so that editors can verify authenticity. Letters from students should include grade classification and major; letters from faculty and staff should include title and the college, school or department where the person is employed.



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Starkville reverses Pride Parade decision

JEFF AMY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

JACKSON, Miss. — Leaders of a Mississippi college town voted Tuesday to permit a gay pride parade, reversing a previous denial and moving to defuse a lawsuit alleging discrimination and free speech violations.

Starkville Mayor Lynn Spruill broke a 3-3 tie to allow the parade to go forward, after an alderman who previously had opposed the parade abstained, saying the city needed to move past the dispute. Aldermen had voted 4-3 to reject the application last month.

The parade will be held March 24.

Alderswoman Sandra Sistrunk had moved Friday to put the issue back before the city board. Tuesday, she said it was important to not treat the application for the city's first gay pride parade differently from any other application.

"I think we're in a position where we can make a more measured and reasoned vote tonight," Sistrunk said. "This has been a bit of a growing pain for the city of Starkville."

The revote came after a community group called Starkville Pride and two organizers filed a federal lawsuit, saying the city had denied their constitution-

al rights to free expression and equal protection. They asked a judge to overrule the city and immediately grant a parade permit to Starkville Pride. The judge has not yet acted on the lawsuit.

"What happened at tonight's meeting was a victory not only for our clients and for their equal dignity under the law, but also for the core principle that in

Starkville's interests are better served in moving forward beyond this and pressing forward on other positive matters facing our community," Little said.

Turner, who attended the meeting, said that's the moment she smiled.

"I think this indicates how accepting Starkville is and how much progress Starkville has made," the architecture stu-

dent. They said they wanted to hold a parade in downtown Starkville to show the presence of LGBT people as part of the larger community. Thanks to the university, Starkville is more cosmopolitan and diverse than many Mississippi towns.

Starkville has a recent history of public contention over lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues. In 2015, aldermen repealed a resolution that made Starkville the first city in Mississippi to denounce discrimination based on sexual orientation. The same day, aldermen also repealed a city health insurance policy that allowed employees to insure same-sex partners. Gay marriage was legalized later that year nationwide by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The city meeting room was crammed past its capacity Tuesday, with people standing in the lobby. Supporters told aldermen that rejecting the parade was an assault on members of the community.

"The decision not to allow a pride parade in Starkville doesn't make me any less gay, and it doesn't quiet my voice, and it isn't going to make me want to move," Starkville resident Megan O'Nan, said. "But it tells a very special part of this community that we don't matter."

I believe the city of Starkville's interests are better served in moving forward beyond this and pressing forward on other positive matters facing our community,"

- David Little, Starkville Board of Aldermen member

this country, we do not restrict a person's ability to speak based on whether or not we agree with what they have to say," said Roberta Kaplan, lawyer for Starkville Pride and organizers Bailey McDaniel and Emily Turner.

Spruill, who doesn't normally vote on the board, had supported the parade, saying the rejection didn't reflect Starkville's diversity and welcoming attitude. She got the chance to cast the deciding vote after Alderman David Little said he maintained his "principled position" but would abstain.

"I believe the city of

dent who grew up in the city of 25,000 said by phone. "We're having a pride parade approved by the city and that happened."

The aldermen who voted against the parade again did not explain their reasoning. Aldermen Ben Carver, who earlier had told a local newspaper that his constituents had supported his original vote, said Tuesday that he had received "numerous, numerous" threats over his earlier "no" vote.

The city's first-ever gay pride parade was proposed as part of a larger set of events, organized by Turner and McDaniel, also a Mississippi State University

HISTORY MONTH continued from page 1

important issues, specifically dealing with women and recognition and helping to tackle the problems that we see in our culture and especially in terms of thinking about what we see women dealing with," Starkey said.

Events later in the month include a March 26 town hall to discuss the lingering wage gap at the university. It will be focused around a wage gap report that was recently released for the first time in 10 years. On March 28, there will be a discussion on the best practices for helping women through the promotion and tenure process.

Women's History Month will be capped off with the 18th annual Isom Student Gender Conference, scheduled to be held April 4-6.

This year's calendar is dedicated to the founding director of the Sarah Isom Center for Women and Gender Studies, Joanne Hawks, who died in July 1998. Hawks, whose tenure lasted from 1972 to 1998, was a professor of history and the last dean of women at the university.

A full list of events can be found at the Isom Center's website.

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For additional questions, please contact University and Public Events at (662) 915-7318 or email events@OleMiss.edu



PODCASTS of the week

ETHEL MWEDZIWENDIRA
DESIGN EDITOR

When thinking of vacation essentials, I make sure to include sunscreen, sunglasses, a good book and a list of podcasts to keep myself entertained. With spring break around the corner, I’ve compiled a list of some of the best top-trending podcasts to listen to. Here is a list of four podcasts that will entertain and motivate you during your long road trip or while you’re at the beach.

MODERN LOVE



From the New York Times and Boston’s WBUR, “Modern Love” is about love, loss and redemption and complements the popular New York Times column of the same name. Hosted by Meghna Chakrabarti, “Modern Love” is poetic, and although the episodes are either full of joy or full of pain, the show uses just the right amount of emotion to hook people interested in love stories. All stories told in the podcast are

personal stories about people’s ups and downs, whether they lie in handling challenges about facing addiction or problems with loved ones, every experience shared is pure bliss. With more than 100 episodes available to stream, actors who have been featured on the show include Jake Gyllenhaal, Angela Bassett and Emmy Rossum, who all share the columns in their own voices. “Modern Love” takes storytelling to a whole new level with its beauty and heartwarming content, and most of the time, it will take you on a rollercoaster of emotions.

CALL YOUR GIRLFRIEND



Some of us aren’t good with communication and perhaps have a long-distance best friend whom we don’t talk to often. “Call Your Girlfriend” is like talking to that best friend in person. The entire premise of this show is to make listeners feel as if they’re near their pals. It’s, overall, a podcast for “long-distance besties everywhere” but also more. The show is hosted by Aminatou Sow and Ann Friedman and is a conversation between two friends who discuss politics, pop culture and everything in between. From discussions about Hillary Clinton or Hollywood cheapskates, “Call Your Girlfriend” is like having a conversation with your best friend, and after a few glasses of wine, both hosts get real. Listening to the show should be part of your daily routine, and if you can’t decide what episode to listen to first, episode 111 is titled “Hillary” and features an interview with Hillary Clinton about the friends who helped her deal with the aftermath of her 2016 defeat in the presidential election.

STUFF YOU SHOULD KNOW



Co-hosts Charles Bryant and Josh Clark are here to serve as your educators – sort of. Created to educate the public about how things work, “Stuff You Should Know” tackles questions that aren’t your typical podcast topics. The co-hosts dive deep into each episode’s topics, talking about things like what an invasive species is or whether or not zombies exist. The show’s delivery is another one of its

strong points that instantly hooks listeners, and while many co-hosts go back and forth about things that aren’t related to the podcast, Bryant and Clark get straight to the point. The two are great teachers and condense information into a simple form. You’ll finish each episode amazed or spooked, but either way, it will leave you wanting more. Some great episodes to listen to are “How Impeachment Works,” “How the Flu Works” and “How Restaurant Health Inspections Work.”

THE EZRA KLEIN SHOW



Ezra Klein is here to give you the rundown on the latest information surrounding news-makers and the leading figures in politics, technology and business. Although its episodes are lengthy, ranging from an hour to an hour to a half, “The Ezra Klein Show” is stimulating and will inform you about working in evolving industries like Silicon Valley and often probes to reveal how the decisions made by lawmakers on the Hill affect us. Klein is one of the best interviewers in the podcast industry right now and engages his guests by getting more dialogue out of them and making each episode sound organic. The host also focuses on global issues and international relations, providing deep analysis and bringing in an interesting mix of technologists, politicians and entrepreneurs. Personal favorites on the show are “How Democracies Die,” “What life is like in North Korea” and “How the Republican Party created Donald Trump.”

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The End of All Music hosts free 'listening party'

LEXI PURVIS
STAFF WRITER

Oxford's independent record store, The End of All Music, will host a free listening party for the companion soundtrack to author Robert Gordon's new book, "Memphis Rent Party," on Thursday. Following the listening party, Thacker Mountain Radio will feature a living reading by Gordon from his book.

Robert Gordon is not only an author but also a filmmaker. He won an Emmy Award in 2017 for his work on the documentary "Best of Enemies" and is a six-time Grammy nominee. Gordon won a 2011 Grammy for his liner notes on Big Star's "Keep an Eye on the Sky" box set. Gordon is a Memphis native, a fact that is often incorporated into his works of film and literature.

"Memphis born and raised," he said. "I drink my whiskey neat."

Gordon's sixth and newest book, "Memphis Rent Party," is a compilation of various stories revolving around Memphis told through different perspectives that capture the uniqueness of the birthplace of rock 'n' roll. The main focus of the book is music; it's about the music that encapsulates the personality of the city of Memphis, whether it's soul, jazz or blues.

Gordon gained inspiration for this work after studying the Harlem Renaissance and learning about rent parties. Rent parties were basically a way for people to make ends meet when they were short on rent by hosting parties, charging admission and selling booze to partygoers.

"I loved the idea of friends helping friends by



PHOTO COURTESY: SQUARE BOOKS

having fun together," Gordon said. "And it occurred to me then, way back, that 'Rent Party' would be a great name for a collection of stories."

Gordon took this idea and connected stories with new text to combine some of his unpublishable pieces into a publishable collection of work. Similar to the erratic bonding of a real Memphis rent party, the book includes different kinds of styles, people, music and experiences.

Released by Fat Possum Records, the book's soundtrack has an "all over the place" variety that perfectly accompanies the book. The soundtrack features songs from Memphis and Mississippi artists like Alex Chilton, Jerry Lee Lewis, Junior Kimbrough,

Jim Dickinson, Charlie Feathers and more.

"This soundtrack, like the Memphis and Mississippi artists it covers, is all over the place," Gordon said. "There's blues, jazz, country, rock 'n' roll. There's everything but gospel, but there's definitely the gospel of rock 'n' roll."

Gordon will be at The End of All Music to meet listeners, music fanatics and Oxford townies and to sign their books and records. The End of All music will be selling the record on limited edition green vinyl.

"We're big fans of Robert Gordon's books, and we're also big fans of Fat Possum Records and we're big fans of Memphis. So this event seemed like a no brainer," said David Swider, owner of The End of All Music.

Swider said he encourages Oxonian music fans to attend the free listen-

ing party, experience the sounds of Memphis and have the exclusive opportunity to hang out with Gordon in person.

Gordon's Thacker Mountain Radio appearance will begin at 6 p.m. at Off Square Books and is free to the public. This week's radio show will also feature a performance from acclaimed singer/songwriter David Olney.

"Square Books is a model bookstore for the nation. Thacker Mountain Radio, too. I'd walk to Oxford to do this," Gordon said.

This listening party is a one-of-a-kind event featuring a one-of-a-kind author. For music enthusiasts and townies alike, this party is sure to be one for the books.

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WE POWER LIFE

Lucy Dacus’ second album is a collection of moments

BLAKE ALSUP
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Lucy Dacus’ sophomore album, “Historian,” comes almost exactly two years after her 2016 debut but feels like a body of work years in the making.

In the album opener, “Night Shift,” Dacus sings about getting over a past relationship. It starts out with hushed singing and the steady strumming of an electric guitar, building to a roar of screamed lyrics and distorted guitar by the end.

“You got a 9 to 5, so I’ll take the night shift/And I’ll never see you again if I can help it/In five years I hope the songs feel like covers/Dedicated to new lovers,” Dacus repeats three times in the song’s refrain.

One of the album’s stronger songs is featured in the first half

of the album. In “The Shell,” Dacus declares, “It’s a myth and now I see it clearly/You don’t have to be sad to make something worth hearing,” before most of the instrumentation dissolves as she sings the chorus, “You don’t wanna be a creator/Doesn’t mean you’ve got nothing to say/Put down the pen, don’t let it force your hand.”

“Yours & Mine,” the centerpiece of the 10-track album, is about the Baltimore protests against police brutality and racism in 2015, according to a Newsweek interview with the singer-songwriter. It starts out with a slow, serious vibe and launches into a more upbeat melody with a soaring guitar solo toward the end before Dacus repeats the latter part of the chorus, ending the song with the bittersweet words, “This



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ACROSS

1 Matador's flourish medium?

5 Actor's parts

10 Word that can succeed building, web or burial

14 Stuck, after "in"

15 Alley Oop's girlfriend

16 Drew on

17 9th letter of the Hebrew alphabet

18 Heavy footwear

19 Grandma

20 Fertile area in a desert

22 Drunkard

24 Dove sounds

27 At hand

28 Cracks

32 Reduces speed

35 Some

36 ___-car

38 Rich cake

40 Trading center

42 Smells

44 Froth

45 Accustom

47 Cassette half

49 Part of TNT

50 Sporting blades

52 Gearwheel

54 Slaughter in

Cooperstown

56 ___ avis

57 Frog's perch

60 Klondike territory

64 Calf-length skirt

65 Takes on

68 State bird of Hawaii

69 Wild

70 Bellybutton type

71 Tax experts: Abbr.

72 Ad word

73 Make up

74 Clue

DOWN

1 Roman statesman

2 District

3 Places

4 Morals

5 Hold up

6 "Hollywood Squares" win

7 Booty

8 Singer John

9 Talks back to

10 Impervious to sunlight

11 Golfer Aoki

12 Camp sight

13 Author Le Shan

21 Tart

23 Preservative

25 Hydrox rival

26 Dispatches

SOLUTION TO 3.7.2018 PUZZLE

MOOLAH MISTICES
ENCORE AER CAME
SEABEE ITE EVOE
COLTS SALT LAKE CITY
ADEE LON TOP
DEARS IR PH IATA
ETS ALA AES MOI
TSE FAX LITHIUM
LAC BAR OGRE
ASTIR RAT MOOSE
STRAIGHTENED
SAAB NET ENLIST
ARIL ATL SLUDGE
DENE RTE SOMITE

28 Renown
29 Senseless
30 Thick sweet liquid
31 Unemotional
33 Penned
34 Gaze fixedly
37 Passion
39 Pianist Gilels
41 Dendroid
43 Nintendo rival
46 Start of a counting rhyme
48 Out of kilter
51 Actress Loren

53 Hindquarter
55 Person of exceptional holiness
57 Capital city of Peru
58 Billy ___ had a hit song with "White Wedding"
59 Bond classic
61 Foreign Legion cap
62 ___ even keel
63 Resting place
64 Bell and Barker
66 Ich bin ___ Berliner
67 Call on

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74

Crossword puzzle provided by BestCrosswords.com (www.bestcrosswords.com). Used with permission.

ain't my home anymore.”

The second half of the album solidifies the album’s personal theme, diving deeper into stories of Dacus’ own past.

On the bluesy “Timefighter,” Dacus’ smooth vocals meld perfectly with the rumbling baseline in the song’s first half that turns into a wall of gritty guitar chords.

“Next of Kin” is one of the more cheerful-sounding songs on the album, but it features Dacus pondering her own mortality, singing, “I am at peace with my death/I can go back to bed.”

In the second verse, she recites, “Never went to Monaco/But I held your hand in the pocket of my coat,”

reiterating that although she can’t do and see everything she wants to in life, she can still find satisfaction.

The penultimate song, “Pillar of Truth,” is about the death of Dacus’ grandmother and is perhaps the most thoughtful song on the album. The chorus says, “I am weak looking at you/A pillar of truth/Turning to dust.” It starts out with a solemn tone and fully blooms about halfway through with the addition of horns and drums.

During the latter end of the song, Dacus evokes religious themes, even inverting lyrics from the hymn “Amazing Grace” by singing, “Lord, be near me/My final hour, I once had sight/But now I’m

blind.” By the end, it feels like a celebration of life rather than mourning of a loss.

The final track, “Historians” is a fitting closer. A somber summary of what the entire album is about, it is a song about two people recording their own story and when one of them dies, the other will be left with the other’s entire history and memory to hold.

It would be easy to call this a sad album, but after a few listens, you start to realize maybe it isn’t sad – it’s just about a lot of real situations we go through as humans. “Historian” is a collection of moments and stories from Dacus’ life that any listener can relate to.

SUDOKU®

Puzzles by KrazyDad

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HOW TO PLAY

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 with no repeats.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL

INTERMEDIATE

7 4 1 5 6 3 2 8 9

6 8 2 4 1 9 5 3 7

3 9 5 2 7 8 4 6 1

2 1 4 6 3 5 7 9 8

9 5 7 8 4 1 6 2 3

8 6 3 7 9 2 1 5 4

4 3 9 1 5 6 8 7 2

5 7 8 3 2 4 9 1 6

1 2 6 9 8 7 3 4 5

COLUMN

Nation's top teams eye top March Madness seeds

LOGAN CONNER
STAFF WRITER

With only three days left until the NCAA Tournament brackets are announced, March Madness is in full form. Many conference tournament titles are yet to be won, so this weekend will prove to be a survival of the fittest for programs that may lie on the bubble.

Although the tournament field is not set in stone, the top seeds have been all but selected. Remarkable seasons from teams like Villanova, Virginia and Duke have put them in great position to sit atop the bracket, while teams like Kentucky will have to prove themselves in conference tournament play this weekend.

Potential No. 1 seeds:

The Virginia Cavaliers are coming off an impressive 28-2 season that included an ACC regular-season title and a unanimous No. 1 ranking in the AP Poll that should translate to the No. 1 overall seed in the Big Dance. With wins against North Carolina, Clemson and Duke, the Cavaliers currently sit first in the nation in strength of record, and they have proven they are the best team in the nation. Head coach Tony Bennett will look to carry a strong defense deep into March for a trip to San Antonio.

After spending five weeks at No. 1, Villanova was able to bounce back from a pair of conference losses and finish the season on a strong note. Despite

not winning the Big East regular-season title for the first time since 2013, the Wildcats were able to sweep Xavier – winning by double digits in both matchups – and add wins against Gonzaga and Tennessee. Led by national player of the year candidate Jalen Brunson, the Wildcats have the ability to repeat history by winning the national title, as they did two years ago.

Big East regular-season champion Xavier proved itself to be ready for the big stage by finally dethroning Villanova for the regular-season conference title, despite suffering two losses to the Wildcats. Led by Trevon Bluiett, the Musketeers are just as dangerous as any team in the nation and are well-deserving of a No. 1 seed. With wins over Baylor and Cincinnati and season sweeps against Butler and Seton Hall, Xavier will look to carry its success into the Big East tournament and shoot for the Final Four.

Moving west, there is no team in the nation that is more accustomed to success than Kansas. After winning their record-setting, 14th straight regular-season title, the Jayhawks silenced any early-season doubt and proved that their chances for a national title are as alive as ever. What once seemed like a team that was struggling

has turned into another powerhouse in Lawrence and a near-lock for a No. 1 seed. With key wins against Kentucky, TCU, West Virginia and Texas Tech, the Jayhawks can secure their position with a run in the Big 12 Tournament and should be penciled in for a late-March run.

Potential No. 2 seeds:

Top to bottom, there has not been a team in the NCAA this year that has faced more adversity than Michigan State.

After losing two of three in early January, the Spartans rolled into the Big Ten conference tournament with 13 straight wins before they fell to eventual champion and in-state rival Michigan. Led by star guard Miles Bridges, the Spartans knocked off North Carolina, Notre Dame and Purdue en route to a conference regular-season title.

The Spartans' weak No. 61 strength of schedule ranking is due in part to the lack of competition within Big Ten play and is the only thing holding Michigan State back from being a No. 1 seed.

Another high-profile team at the end of an up-and-down season is the Duke Blue Devils. Despite losses against St. John's, Boston College and Virginia, the Blue Devils were able to gain some of the nation's best wins against

Michigan State, Florida, Clemson and North Carolina. Led by Marvin Bagley III and Grayson Allen, the Blue Devils have what most other teams lack: experience. This "we've been here before" mindset will make Duke as dangerous as it has been in years past. Coupling this experience with its 16th-ranked strength of schedule in its pocket, this team is destined for a Final Four run.

In the year following former star-player Caleb Swanigan's graduation to the NBA, the Purdue Boilermakers surprised many with an impressive season. After early losses to Tennessee and Western Kentucky, the Boilermakers won 19 straight games that included wins

against Arizona and Michigan.

After a loss in the Big Ten championship, Purdue will be coming into the tournament with losses in four of their last nine games as it clings to the hope that it can right the ship in the field of 64.

Despite losing nine games this season, North Carolina is dangerous. With big wins against Tennessee, Ohio State, Clemson and Duke, the team currently has the No. 1 strength of schedule and No. 8 strength of record in the nation. The Tar Heels



also hold 10 wins against FPI top-50 teams and only one loss to a team outside the top 50. The defending national champions proved that they can compete with anyone, and veterans Theo Pinson, Joel Berry II and Luke Maye will look to repeat last year's dominant effort.

Considering the chaos that has ensued throughout the 2017-18 season, the NCAA basketball tournament has certainly earned the nickname "March Madness" this year. Teams like Butler, VCU and, most recently, South Carolina, proved that Cinderella stories can come out of nowhere. These eight teams that are destined for top seeds better watch their backs. It is March, and it is mad.



CLASSIFIEDS INFORMATION

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NEWS OPINION LIFESTYLES SPORTS ABOUT US PRINT EDITIONS APPLY POLLS NEWSWATCH ADVERTISE MULTIMEDIA

LOGAN CONNER
STAFF WRITER

Forward Marcanvis Hymon enrolled at Ole Miss after a record-setting senior season at Whitehaven High School in Memphis and set to work making a name for himself. After playing six games, Hymon ended his freshman season early because of injury. Hymon was able to bounce back during his sophomore year, however, playing in all 32 games and averaging 6.1 points and 5.2 rebounds per game and claiming a 52.3 field-goal percentage. Against Towson University, the then-sophomore forward would score

A basketball player in a white jersey with "REBELS" and "SEC" on it is dribbling the ball while being defended by a player in a red jersey with the number 13. The game is taking place in a gymnasium with spectators in the background.

FILE PHOTO: MARLEE CRAWFORD

Drop it and

Forward Marcanvis Hymon enrolled at Ole Miss after a record-setting senior season at Whitehaven High School in Memphis and set to work making a name for himself. After playing six games, Hymon ended his freshman season early because of injury. Hymon was able to bounce back during his sophomore year, however, playing in all 32 games and averaging 6.1 points and 5.2 rebounds per game and claiming a 52.3 field-goal percentage. Against Towson University, the then-sophomore forward would score a career-high 20 points. His junior season consisted of much of the same, leading the Rebels with 40 blocked shots throughout the campaign. As a senior, Hymon averaged 4.5 points and five rebounds per game, thanks largely to a 55.7 field-goal percentage. In this season's opener against Louisiana-Lafayette, Hymon recorded his lone double-double of the season with 12 points and 13 assists.

After spending two seasons at Three Rivers Community College, Lithuanian forward Justas Furmanavicius transferred to Ole Miss and instantly became a key piece of the Rebel team. After averaging 12.5 points and 9.3 rebounds as a sophomore at Three Rivers, Furmanavicius averaged 6.3 points and 5 rebounds as a junior in Oxford. The big man collected his first double-double in a win against South Carolina. During his senior season, Furmanavicius, originally from Kaunas, Lithuania, averaged 3.0 points and 3.0 rebounds in 16.9 minutes per game, averaging 41.7

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